

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

2003 Report of Accomplishments

Puget Sound Work Plan Grants Program



Bill Language - Summary

- The purpose of the Puget Sound Water Quality Work Plan Grants program is to improve and protect the waters of Puget Sound by providing funding to conservation districts to implement the [plan of work](#) approved by the Puget Sound Water Quality Action Team. Each grant is approved by Action Team staff and provides for implementation of best management practices, as well as outreach activities. Practices must meet the technical standards and specifications of the USDA Field Office Technical Guide. Practice design is done by State Licensed Engineers employed by the districts, or USDA Engineers.



Source of Funding

- \$840,000 for the 2003-05 biennium from the Water Quality Account

Distribution of 2003-05 Water Quality Implementation Grants

- For each of the 12 Puget Sound Conservation Districts these are two year grants in the amounts of \$63,333.
- Puget Sound Water Quality Work Plan Grants are available only to the 12 conservation districts that comprise Puget Sound and who demonstrate program and money management ability by meeting the Management Standards adopted by the Conservation Commission.
- Grant Budgets:

District Technical Assistance to Landowners	\$323,579
District Financial Assistance to Landowners	\$7,000
District Marketing / Outreach Activities	\$149,957
District Project Evaluation / Monitoring	\$87,826
District Other Activities	\$58,933
District Grant Administration	\$132,705
Commission Program Administration	\$80,000
Total	\$840,000

Rollup of Puget Sound Conservation Districts' Accomplishments (07/01/03 through 12/31/03)

Total number of direct / indirect district contacts made with individuals	57,537
Of the total contacts, number of individuals who initiated conservation plans or practices on their own	152
Of the total contacts, number of individuals who initiated conservation plans or practices using district technical and / or technical assistance	104
Total number of conservation / farm plans completed	12
Total number of cooperators who implemented BMPs	48
Total number of BMPs implemented	73
Of the implemented BMPs, total number of acres that will no longer contribute to surface or groundwater pollution	358.95
Of the implemented BMPs, total number of stream miles protected, enhanced or restored	16.34

Total grant amount spent	\$171,695.73
Total grant amount spent on technical assistance to cooperators	\$88,818.95
Total grant amount spent on cost share to cooperators	\$486.00
Amount of other funding leveraged with this grant	\$165,873.38

Individual Conservation District 2003 Accomplishments

Clallam Conservation District

- *12,400 native plants & 296 rain barrels distributed reduce impacts of stormwater improve wildlife habitat.*
- *87 individuals will incorporate native plants and natural landscaping concepts into their landscapes as a result of participation in workshops on natural landscaping; 55 people learned about stormwater impacts and management by attending a conservation district presentation; 600 school children and 39 teachers/parents participated in educational programs lead by conservation district; nine BMP interpretive signs installed at Robin Hill Farm Park.*
- *Information and technical assistance provided to 21 landowners.*

Jefferson County Conservation District

- *Provided funds for project management of project to stabilize major sediment source impacting ESA listed summer chum salmon spawning habitat, in partnership with. North Olympic Salmon Coalition.*
- *Water quality monitoring of 8 stations in 4 watersheds.*
- *Planning for "Horses for Clean Water" workshop (implemented with funding from PSAT).*
- *Technical assistance to North Olympic Salmon Coalition and Jefferson Land Trust for their salmon recovery projects*
- *Assisted Jefferson Co. and Hood Canal Coordinating Council with salmon project prioritization.*

King Conservation District

- *Utilized 1.4 million gallons of reclaimed wastewater from the KC Wastewater Treatment Facility to propagate 30,000 native plants for local estuarine, stream, and wetland enhancement projects.*

Kitsap Conservation District

- This funding is instrumental to the success of the District's Education and Outreach Program.
 - KCD newsletters, county fair booth, ag events, annual tree sale fund raiser, presentations
- KCD Native Plant Salvage Program maintenance, event and workshop activities.
- Accomplishments: 5 riparian restoration plans on 25 acres and 3 ag BMP designs

Mason Conservation District

- MCD utilizes this grant to support its' GIS mapping efforts. The advances which have been made by the district in developing use layers have served all of our current grants. The MCD grant also contains a technical service component. Three landowners have been assisted utilizing funding from this grant. Two farm plans and a bank stabilization project have been completed.

Pierce Conservation District

- *Catalogued fish passage barriers in Nisqually River Basin and Key Peninsula/Gig Harbor Watersheds.*
- *Assisted in Construction of Puget Creek Restoration project, opening 1.2 stream miles for chum and coho salmon.*
- *Prepared for 2004 construction of four salmon recovery projects, including Foothills Trail Restoration Project, White River Road Decommissioning Project, Sumner Sportsmen's Club Oxbow Restoration Project, and West Milton/Hylebos Oxbow Reconnection Project .*

San Juan County Conservation District

- *Continued implementation of district-developed watershed plans for Swifts Bay, False Bay, and Westsound watersheds:*
 - *Surface water quality monitoring in progress or scheduled for all three watersheds;*
 - *Port Stanley Lagoon restoration feasibility study in progress;*
 - *Established watershed action group (Watershed Enhancement Team, W.E.T.) on Lopez Island.*
- *Developed conservation and stewardship folio as tool for educating San Juan County residents (especially new residents) regarding critical conservation values and practices*

Skagit Conservation District

This funding source was leveraged with other funds to support Conservation Education and Forestry Programs. Accomplishments include:

- *Watershed Masters Volunteer Training Program – Twenty individuals completed Fall Watershed Masters Training Program; Volunteer hours contributed on projects and education: Over 900 hours*
- *Skagit Stream Team Program*
- *Volunteer Shellfish Monitoring Program*
- *Environmental Education*
 - *10 school presentations were conducted to a total of (approximately) 238 students. Topics included, the “Value and Function of Trees”; Watersheds and Water Quality; Amphibians and Wetlands; Aquatic Insects; Soils; and Salmon and Stream Ecology.*
 - *The Annual 6th Grade Conservation Tour (approximately 425 students).*
 - *Informational packets, promoting the District’s school presentation and youth education programs distributed to approximately 738 local teachers;*
 - *Soil and Water Stewardship Week - A community proclamation in recognition of “Soil & Water Stewardship Week” was televised, presented, and signed at the Skagit County Commissioners meeting. A poster contest for local youth (grades k-12) was conducted with 202 youth participating.*
 - *Upper Skagit Bald Eagle Festival educational booth - Audience: 900+.*
- *Newsletters and Fliers*
 - *Informational brochure to 1,158 landowners highlighting the small farm technical assistance program.*
 - *Skagit Conservation News –mailing list of approximately 3,200 on a quarterly basis.*
 - *Stream Team News – for volunteers - update on monitoring and upcoming events.*
 - *Watershed Masters Calendar of Upcoming Events – Periodic mailing to 220+ individuals to provide information regarding upcoming volunteer opportunities and community events.*
 - *Watershed Masters & Stream Team programs brochures – distribution: 2,500*

Snohomish Conservation District

- *On the Weber farm on the north fork of the Stillaguamish, 1945 trees and shrubs and 2000 willows were planted entirely by 95 volunteers who donated 420 hours.*
- *130 volunteers provided labor to plant 950 trees and shrubs on four riparian sites, 16 pieces of Large Woody Debris (LWD) were placed in a wetland adjacent to a stream.*
- *SCD Engineering staff assisted Drainage District 7 in King County in obtaining ESA approvals from USFWS and NOAA Fisheries for \$300,000 in proposed pump station modifications.*
- *The Engineering team finalized and stamped 34 designs for small farm, dairy, and in-stream projects with a variety of funding sources and provided technical assistance to 56 cooperators.*

Thurston Conservation District

- *Sold 29,190 native plants to 614 individuals during our 2003 annual plant sale. Ciscoe Morris was our guest speaker.*

Whatcom Conservation District

- *Partnered with the Horses for Clean Water program to coordinate two series of small farm management workshops focusing on environmentally sensitive livestock keeping practices. Seventy-five local horse and livestock owners attended the classes.*
- *Led eight watershed education classes and two water quality field days for various local schools. Over three hundred elementary and high school students benefited from field experience collecting macroinvertebrate samples and water quality data.*

Whidbey Island Conservation District

- *20 watershed meetings with landowners/operators*
- *3 critical area plantings implemented with 120 participants*
- *22 landowners assisted on fish streams*

Washington Conservation Districts
Assisting Land Managers With Their Conservation Choices